

SAB

I Am in Need of Music

\$2.00

Christopher Alexander

I Am in Need
of Music

SAB and Piano

Also available in SATB

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

The timeless words of Elizabeth Bishop receive a classical treatment with this lyrical melody supported by light, arpeggiated accompaniment (though written in 3/4 meter feels like 9/8 meter because of the constant triplets). Suitable for any occasion and concert performance.

*I am in need of music that would flow
Over my fretful, feeling fingertips,
Over my bitter-tainted, trembling lips,
With melody, deep, clear, and liquid-slow.
Oh, for the healing swaying, old and low,
Of some song sung to rest the tired dead,
A song to fall like water on my head,
And over quivering limbs, dream flushed to glow!*

*There is a magic made by melody,
A spell of rest, and quiet breath, and cool
Heart, that sinks through fading colors deep
To the subaqueous stillness of the sea,
And floats forever in a moon-green pool,
Held in the arms of rhythm and of sleep.*

— Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979)

About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

I AM IN NEED OF MUSIC

Words by
ELIZABETH BISHOP

SAB and Piano

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Moderato (♩ = c. 70-72)

PIANO

L. H. *mp*

sim.

5

SOPRANO
ALTO

mp *unis.*

I am in need of music that would flow _____

5

BARITONE

9

0 - ver my fret - ful, feel - ing fin - ger - tips,

Also available in SATB.

I Am in Need of Music - SATB

13

O - ver my bit - ter - taint - ed, trem - bling lips, With

13

mf

17

mel - o - dy, deep, clear, and li - quid - slow.

17

mf

21

Oh, for the heal - ing sway - ing, old and low Of some

21

mp

25

song sung to rest the ti - red dead,

25

29

A song of all like wa - ter on my head, And

29

33

o - ver qui-ver-ing limbs, dreams flashed to glow!

33